

CHAPTER 8

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Area, assembly	The designated locations where the participants in the street cordon and the main funeral procession will assemble with transportation, be briefed and organized into a portion of the cordon or into march units (later to be moved into position by guides).
Area, dispersal	The designated locations where the street cordon and march units will be released after performing their functions. Their transportation will be pre-positioned in these areas.
Arrival point	The locations at which the deceased will arrive in Washington, D.C. are: MATS, Washington National Airport; Andrews Air Force Base; Washington Navy Yard Annex; or Union Station.
Bier (church truck)	The frame or stand on which the casket is placed. A church truck which is draped is considered a moveable bier and is used during a funeral service to transport the casket to and from the altar.
Body bearer, (joint body bearer team)	A trained member of the Armed Forces, who as a part of a team, will carry the casket to and from ceremony sites and will fold the flag which drapes the casket following the interment service. Normally a team consists of 8 men and an OIC. Under certain circumstances, a 10-man team may be utilized.
Cadence	The uniform rhythm in which a movement is executed or the number of steps per minute in which the movement is executed.
Caisson	A horse drawn artillery caisson and limber converted for use as a bier. This is provided by 1st Battalion (Reinforced), 3d Infantry and is used in the main funeral procession.
Catafalque	A structure upon which a casket is placed during the lying in state or repose portions of a funeral.
Ceremony site control officer	The officer at each ceremony site who is responsible for the coordination, control, and conduct of ceremonies and activities pertinent to the funeral at his location.
Clergy	One or more civilian or military clergy who will officiate at a phase of the funeral.
Color (National)	The flag of the United States with fringe on three sides. A color bearer with the National Color will precede the casket when it moves during a ceremony. A flag (National Color without fringe) will be draped on the casket.
Color team	A team of three enlisted men, one to carry the National Color and two who are color guards. They are all in ceremonial uniform and the color guards are armed with rifles.
Color guard	An enlisted man in ceremonial uniform armed with a rifle who escorts the National Color. Normally accompanies the National Color at all ceremonies.
Color bearer	One who carries the color or flag in ceremonies. Normally this will be a trained member of an Armed Forces color team.

Commander of troops	The officer who commands, and is responsible for, the military ceremonial elements to include all cordons, color teams, body bearers, etc. He will receive his mission, guidance, and cues from the ceremony site control officer.
Company mass	Three platoons with a 9-man front and nine men deep. Company commander is six steps to the front and center of the company. Guidon bearer one step to the rear and two steps to the left of the company commander. Platoon leaders normal distance in front of left file of their platoon. Platoon guides normal distance in front of right file of their platoon. Used in main funeral procession by all male military marching units.
Cordon	A line of troops used to honor the deceased or to secure a ceremony site from becoming overcrowded by the general public.
Joint honor cordon	Two ranks of troops facing each other flanking the route the casket will follow to or from the hearse to the ceremony site. They will present arms as the casket passes between them. Each rank of the cordon is composed of representatives from each of the Armed Forces positioned in protocol order, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard. They will be dressed in ceremonial uniforms and armed with rifles with fixed bayonets.
Joint street honor cordon (main funeral procession)	Two ranks of troops facing each other, flanking the route the main funeral procession will follow. Each service is given a portion of the route to line based on protocol order, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force. They are dressed in class "A" uniforms and are normally armed with rifles, with fixed bayonets.
Security cordon	A line of troops facing the crowd dressed in class "A" uniforms (normally with arms) with the mission of keeping all unauthorized personnel outside the cordon. Normally used at ceremony sites.
Rope cordon	A line of troops facing the crowd, holding a rope and dressed in class "A" uniform. Their mission is to allow no unauthorized personnel inside the cordon. Normally used around ceremony sites.
Cortege	That part of the procession consisting of the hearse, family, clergy, and participating personnel who accompany the casket.
D-Day	The day of death.
Demise	The decease of a person, entitled to ceremonies encompassed in this plan.
Departure point	The transportation terminal from which the deceased will be transported to the place of interment. In Washington, D.C. the departure points are: MATS, Washington National Airport; Andrews Air Force Base; Washington Navy Yard Annex; or Union Station.
Dignitary	One who holds a position of honor or who is selected by the next of kin to act in an official capacity.
Distance	The space from a man's chest to the back of the man in front of him as they stand in formation (normally 40 inches).
Family	A group of individuals closely related to the deceased; especially the group formed of parents, spouse, and children of the deceased.
FOC	Funeral Operations Center—A command post utilized for the purpose of directing all activities pertinent to a funeral.
Funeral service	The rites conducted for the deceased in a place of worship.
Guard of honor	The members, commissioned, noncommissioned and enlisted, of each service who are posted at the corners of the casket while the remains are lying in repose or in state. These men are in ceremonial uniform and armed with rifles with fixed bayonets. The officers wear side arms.

Guides	Officers who are designated to contact, inform, coordinate, control, and transport all dignitaries participating in the State Funeral.
H-Hour	The hour of death.
Honorary pallbearers	Nonbearing attendants of the casket. Normally these are old friends and associates of the deceased. For convenience it is requested that the number be kept to 10 or less.
Honors	See paragraph 149.
Gun	A cannon salute fired by a saluting battery.
Musical	Ruffles and Flourishes followed by National Anthem or Hail to the Chief. In the case of General or Flag officers the General's or Admiral's march will be played as appropriate.
Horse (caparisoned)	The riderless horse, fully harnessed with reversed boots, that follows the caisson in the main funeral procession.
Initial point	The point at which the main funeral procession begins.
Interment	The ceremony that takes place at gravesite.
Interval	Lateral space between elements, normally 40 inches, when in formation.
Lie in state	The 24 hour period during which the remains lie in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. The general public is allowed to view the remains if the family so desires. A guard of honor will attend the body during this time.
March unit	A unit which moves and halts at the order of a single commander. The main funeral procession is made up of three march units.
Medical support	A group of medical personnel composed of the following: One MD, one nurse, two aid men, and one driver. Minimum equipment composed of: One ambulance, resuscitator, doctor's emergency bag and wheeled litter.
Military escort	Military personnel who accompany the casket as a mark of honor or courtesy.
Participating personnel	Those persons by virtue of office or relationship with the deceased, who are asked to act in an official capacity at the ceremony. Those military personnel who are conducting or performing in the ceremony.
Personal flag	Specific flag authorized for an individual symbolic of the office held. The flag will follow the casket when it moves during a ceremony.
Reception party	The group of U.S. Government and Diplomatic officials who will await the arrival of the remains in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol or the place of the funeral.
Place of repose	A location where the remains are placed prior to the main funeral procession or before lying in state. A guard of honor is placed with the remains and services may be held during this time.
Saluting battery	Cannons used for firing salutes (rendering honors).
Special honor guard (Joint Chiefs of Staff)	The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Chiefs of Staff and Commandants of the Armed Forces, who participate as representatives of their services in the ceremonies of the funeral.
Special honor guard	Two General or Flag Officers from each of the Armed Forces who represent their services and participate in ceremonies in all phases of the funeral.